



After the release of "Inner Secrets" last October, Carlos and the band embarked on a tour of Europe where they played for almost a quarter of a million cheering fans. The tour, which began in November and lasted through December, proved once again that Santana is the most popular American band in the world.

Returning from Europe, they spent the month of January recovering from the exhausting tour. On February 3rd this year, they left once again for a tour of the major cities of the United States. In Chicago, the audience demanded and got four encores. The same thing happened in Cleveland. In both cities the audiences still wanted more music; they couldn't get enough and we have reason to believe that they would have kept the band playing all night and the next day if they could have. It's typical but not surprising, though, as any of you (we hope all of you) who have seen Carlos and the band in concert will know. Anyway, the American tour, which lasts officially until March 18, has been one sell-out, standing room only show after another. Eddie Money has been opening for Santana in many cities. Two greats for the price of one!

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Santana will be playing two benefits in the San Francisco Bay Area at the end of this month. One, at the Marin Veterans Hall, will raise money for the Marin County Youth Symphony. The other at the University of California, Berkeley, campus, will benefit an as yet unnamed organization.

"Inner Secrets" has, since its release sold 750,000 copies. The first single, "Stormy," originally recorded by the Classics IV, has done very well and has gotten a lot of airplay all across the country. The second single off the album will be "One Chain" and the band has high hopes for it. In fact, they expect "One Chain" to push "Inner Secrets" that short distance to platinum status, 1,000,000 copies sold.

A couple of weeks ago, "Oneness: Silver Dreams, Golden Realities" was released. It is a work which emphasizes Carlos's guitar playing. He wrote and produced the album himself. "Oneness" is an expression of Carlos's own vision--spiritual, powerful and personal.

When you look at the credits on the album you will notice a Saunders King sings vocals on one song. Saunders King is Carlos's father-in-law.

The current line-up of the band is Carlos on guitar, Greg Walker on vocals, David Margen on bass, Raul Rekow and Armando Peraza on percussion. Graham Lear on drums, Chris Rhyne on keyboards, and Chris Solberg on rhythm guitar. In future letters we are going to focus on these astounding musical men who help make Santana's music what it is.

For now, though, we must close.